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TECH CENTER 1600



AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding an IL-17 receptor-related protein, said nucleic acid is selected from the group consisting of:

- (a) an isolated nucleic acid molecule of SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3 or 4 which encodes an IL-17 receptor-related protein; and
- (b) an isolated nucleic acid molecule which is complimentary and hybridizes to the nucleic acid molecules of (a); and
- [(c)] isolated nucleic acid molecule differing from the isolated nucleic acid molecules of (a) or (b) in codon sequence due to the degeneracy of the genetic code, and which encodes an IL-17 receptor-related protein.

B1

2. (currently amended) A fragment of nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said fragment contains from about that is at least 10 consecutive nucleotides of SEQ ID NO. 1 up to the full length sequence of SEQ ID NO. 1 bases in length and which will selectively hybridize to nucleic acid molecule encoding an IL-17 receptor-related protein.

3. (original) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is used as an anti-sense molecule to inhibit the expression of an IL-17 receptor-related protein.

4. (original) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 2, wherein said nucleic acid molecule is used for chromosomal mapping or mutation analysis of gene encoding an IL-17 receptor-related protein.

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5. (currently amended) [[A]] An isolated genomic DNA encoding an IL-17 receptor-related protein, wherein said genomic DNA comprises coding sequences identical hybridizes to nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

6. (original) A vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule selected from the group consisting of SEQ. ID NO: 1, 2, 3 and 4 adapted for expression in a cell and has regulatory elements necessary for expression of said nucleic acid molecule in the cell.

7. (currently amended) A recombinant host cell comprising
~~transfected~~ with the vector of claim 6, wherein said vector expresses an
IL-17 receptor-related protein.

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B2
8. (currently amended) The host cell of claim 7, wherein said cell
is selected from group consisting of bacterial cells, mammalian cells,
plant cells and insect cells.

9-21. (withdrawn)